



WHAT'S IN THE WORKS

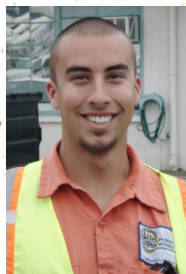
August 2012

New Employees

Public Works welcomes the following employee who is new to the department since the last newsletter publication:



Michael Smith
Heavy Equipment Operator



Kyle David
Traffic Control Journeyman



Chad Nichols
Utility Worker—Traffic Division

Take Your Child to Work Day

Several Public Works staff took advantage of the Management Services Department's *Take Your Child to Work Day* on August 2, 2012. Ari Omessi, Daniel Zacaraiz, Mirna Mendoza, Roger Gibbs, Craig Van Item, and Ricardo Sanchez were among those who used the opportunity to share their workplaces with the youngsters. The day included visits to the Police and Fire departments, the Animal Shelter, and everyone's favorite - the Public Works Recycle Center. Both the participants and staff who interacted with them throughout the day really enjoyed the eye-opening experience.



Cassie Sanchez helps her dad, Ricardo, catch up on emails

Congratulations

Richard Lockyer promoted to the position of Traffic Signal Operations Specialist.

Jacqui Batayneh promoted to the position of Administrative Analyst II.

Congratulations to both!



Heat Illness Prevention

When working outdoors, it is important to know how to prevent heat illness. During high temperatures you need to watch yourself and your coworkers more closely for signs of heat illness.

Prevention

- * Do not wait until you are thirsty to drink water. You should drink at least 8 oz. of water every 15 minutes.
- * Take rest breaks in the shade to cool down.
- * Wear a wide brimmed hat or cap.
- * It is recommended to reduce the intake of caffeine products when the weather is hot, as caffeine may contribute to dehydration.

Signs of Heat Illness

Fatigue	Dizziness	Heavy swelling
High Pulse Rate	Headache	Cramps
Nausea/Vomiting		

Life Threatening Symptoms

Convulsions	Fainting	Confusion
Red, Hot, Dry Skin	High Body Temperature	



Notify your supervisor and coworkers immediately if you begin to experience or you notice a coworker experiencing signs of heat illness and seek medical attention.



Project Updates

Safe Routes to School Project

Omar Moheize's section is completing the design phase on a federally funded Safe Routes to School project to improve pedestrian safety near Luther Burbank Middle School. The project will include sidewalk construction on Screenland Drive (Jeffries to Victory), Hollywood Way (Burbank to Victory), and the construction of bulb-outs to increase visibility at the following locations:

- Kenneth Road at Delaware Road
- Kenneth Road at Cornell Drive
- Jeffries Avenue at California Street
- Jeffries Avenue at Screenland Drive

Currently, the project documents are at the California Department of Transportation awaiting State approval.

During the construction phase, which is scheduled to begin in fall 2012, parking will be restricted for short periods at various times to enable the contractor to work in the parkway area and at the edge of the street. The expected completion date is late fall 2012.



Verdugo Pool Progress

The demolition of the 1948 Verdugo Pool and bathhouse was completed in August. Grading, excavation and underground utility work is progressing. The project is scheduled to be complete in April 2013 for a summer opening. The new facilities will include a 50 meter pool, activity pool with water slides and other features, a new bathhouse, additional parking and other site improvements. The facilities will include high efficiency equipment, photo-voltaic roof power generation and recycled water irrigation for the south side of the park.



Sidewalk Repair Project

The current Sidewalk Repair Project is progressing nicely. Construction is now above Glenoaks Boulevard between Magnolia Boulevard and Delaware Road. Soon the project will progress down to Glenoaks Boulevard and then down to San Fernando Boulevard. The contractor, Toro Enterprises Inc., is doing a great job of keeping the citizens happy while repairing driveways and sidewalks.

Construction on this project is expected to run through January, 2013.



Seismic Project

Phase 6 of the Citywide Seismic Retrofit Project, is underway. Council will soon be asked to approve a construction contract for the retrofitting of the Northwest Library, Public Works Street Supervisor and Police Evidence Storage Buildings, and the Administrative Services Building.

In preparation for construction, the Northwest Library closed to the public on August 1 and Library staff have begun packing. It is anticipated that construction at the Library will begin in September.

Public Works staff have also begun preparation for the relocation of Management Services and Financial Services Departments, as all staff will need to vacate the Administrative Services Building during construction.

Mariposa Equestrian Bridge

Crews from Public Work Building Maintenance and Park, Recreation and Community Services Landscape Maintenance teamed together to repair the Mariposa Equestrian Bridge. The project included the removal and replacement of the surface material and the first layer of the wood decking, as part of normal bridge maintenance. The bridge was originally scheduled to be closed for twelve days to accomplish the necessary tasks. However, through teamwork and hard work, the crews were able to complete the project in just two days! This allowed the bridge to be reopened ten days earlier than expected. Good job!



One More Project Update

Buena Vista/Vanowen Railroad Crossing

In starting the project to improve the railroad crossing at Buena Vista and Vanowen Streets this summer, staff encountered some underground utilities on the north side of the project that required further investigation. Project components, including new railroad crossing gates, are located within a small area, staff has been working to accurately identify the location of all underground utilities before proceeding with work. Staff have also been working to secure agreements with the utility companies in order for the project to move forward. Construction work will begin in September on the south side of the project.

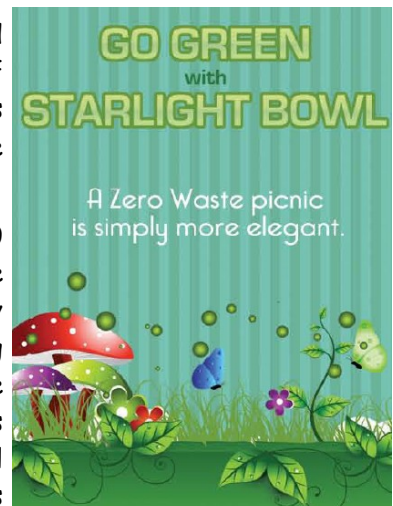
This project, estimated at \$3.2 Million, will enhance safety by installing new pedestrian and vehicle railroad crossing gates, median islands, dedicated right-turn lanes, new road striping, and more. The project will be completed in partnership with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA/Metrolink), which is contributing a grant for \$800,000 toward its share of the work. The Railroad's funding will be combined with over \$1 Million in federal funding, bringing the City's share cost to just over 40% of total costs.

The Traffic Division will keep residents informed of construction schedules and traffic changes as work progresses. Watch the City website for details.

Recycling Efforts at the Starlight Bowl

Since 2005 the Starlight Bowl has been collecting bottles, cans and cardboard. Beginning with the 2011 season, Recycle Center staff took waste reduction to a new level by adding the option for guests to compost food scraps and paper products at three Zero Waste stations around the venue.

Staff attends all events, which attract between 1,500 and 4,200 guests, and greet visitors to inform them about how to separate their trash to easily recycle bottles and cans as well as compost any organic material. In addition, guest are encouraged to bring reusable utensils, plates and containers to the next event to reduce the waste generated in the first place. Stage announcements reinforce the message and advertisements were placed in the local newspaper and event brochure. The Starlight Bowl website offers information about how to pack a zero waste picnic and stresses that "a zero waste picnic is simply more elegant."



At the end of each concert waste audits are performed to see how successful the evenings efforts had been. In 2011 the results were promising with over 40% of the waste either recycled or composted. This was up from only 20% in previous years when only recycling existed. This year, the rate has jumped to 60% thanks, in part, to an increased number of zero waste stations, the familiarity of the program by return patrons, and by the efforts of the Starlight Bowl staff and vendors.



Did you know?



Disposable batteries are expensive, a burden to natural systems and costly to recycle. Rechargeable batteries are a better choice for many electronic devices around the home and office including: cameras, wireless mice, flashlights, and other small electronic devices. Rechargeable batteries are less expensive over time, save resources, and are covered by a nation-wide recycling program that is included in the purchase price.

For information on recycling rechargeable batteries visit <http://www.call2recycle.org/> or contact the Recycle Center staff at 238-3900.

Public Works by the Numbers

Engineering & Construction

The Engineering and Construction Division includes the Street Design and Construction section and the Permits section. The Street Design and Construction section is responsible for planning, designing, constructing, and monitoring the City’s street, alley, and sidewalk infrastructure improvements; overseeing all work in the public right-of-way for public safety and adherence to City standards.

The Permits section of the Engineering and Construction Division regulates all work performed in the public right-of-way. The table below summarizes the activities of the Permits section during the past three months. These data are an indication of private-sector construction activity in the City.

TYPE OF PERMIT	May	June	July
Gas Company *	10	13	8
AT&T *	0	3	5
BWP - Water Division *	21	25	10
BWP - Electrical Division *	2	4	3
Charter Communications *	1	0	0
Excavation *	6	15	12
Excavation w/Plans *	5	8	5
Sewer *	1	4	8
Haul Route *	2	0	0
Building Plan Check	5	6	4
Building/Construction *	13	10	18
Demolition *	2	1	1
Pool *	3	9	1
Street Use *	49	38	53
Transportation *	26	31	10
Water Discharge *	34	14	10
Address Assignment *	15	25	38
Banner *	2	2	3
Encroachment *	1	2	1
Temporary Encroachment *	4	2	1
Conditional Use (CUP) **	0	1	0
Development Review (DR) **	2	0	2
Administrative Use Permit (AUP)	0	1	0
Accessory Structure Permit	1	1	2
Second Dwelling Unit (SDU) **	0	0	1
Lot Line Adjustment (LLA) **	0	1	0
Minor Fence Exception Permit	3	0	2
Major Fence Exception Permit	0	1	0
Plan Development (PD) **	0	0	0
Tentative Parcel Map (TPM) **	0	0	0
Tentative Tract Map (TTM) **	0	0	0
Variance (VAR) **	3	1	2
Zone Map/Text (ZMA/ZTA) **	3	0	0
Monthly Totals	214	218	200
% Change compared to 2011	43%	19%	-13%

OTHER PERMIT SECTION ACTIVITIES	May	June	July
Research/Maps provided to public	21	24	32
News Rack Impoundment	0	0	0
News Rack Verification	10	7	20
News Rack Citations	10	7	17
Open House Applications	4	22	21
Open House Permits *	16	219	204
Monthly Totals	61	279	294

* Permits Issued

** Applications Received in Public Works

Traffic

The Traffic Division includes the Traffic Engineering and Design section, Signs and Painting section, and Signal Maintenance section . Traffic Engineering and Design oversees traffic control designs, plan checking/permitting, parking programs, and neighborhood protection plans. The Signs and Painting section oversees installation/maintenance of traffic signs, traffic control painting, pedestrian crosswalks, and bikeways. The Signal Maintenance section oversees the various Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) devices that include the maintenance/installation of dynamic message signs, trailblazer signs, traffic cameras, and system-wide traffic detection. The Traffic Management Center serves as the centralized command center for the City’s 188 signalized intersections.

The table below summarizes some of the activities of the Traffic Division during the past three months.

	May	June	July
Parking			
Number of monthly permits issued	405	385	374
Monthly parking permit revenue	\$20,250	\$19,250	\$18,700
Residential permits issued	152	156	129
Number of LNCV parking permits issued	189	162	161
LNCV parking permit revenue	\$410	\$400	\$340
Signs & Painting			
Number of linear feet of curb painted/repainted	8,020	13,982	7,256
Number of linear feet of pavement markings painted/repainted	3,756	3,336	18,884
Number of lane miles of street re-striped*	0	0	66.6
Number of word legends & symbol legends painted/repainted	106	239	100
Number of "Stop" signs replaced on schedule	7	7	5
Number of miscellaneous signs repaired/replaced	306	305	314
Number of traffic count studies conducted	6	18	8
Traffic Signals			
Number of traffic signals receiving preventative maintenance	28	58	29
Number of traffic signal malfunctions repaired	39	35	31
Number of traffic signal malfunctions repaired within 2 hours	39	35	30
Number of Underground Service Alert markings completed	83	39	90

*Re-stripping is typically conducted in summer months only.

Water Reclamation & Sewer

The Water Reclamation and Sewer Division includes the Engineering and Design section, Industrial Waste Permitting and Inspection section, Plant Operations and Maintenance section, and Sewer Maintenance section. Its functions include issuing sewer permits; establishing sewer fees; preparing reports and studies relating to the City’s Sewer Master Plan and infrastructure needs; coordinating administrative activities with the City of Los Angeles, state, and federal regulating agencies, and maintaining 284 miles of sewers and storm drains.

The table below summarizes some of the activities of the Water Reclamation and Sewer Division over a three month period.

	April	May	June
Number of SLURP rebates issued (\$'s)	\$1,750*	\$2,250**	\$1,825***
Miles of sewer cleaned	29.48	34.51	28.83
Miles of sewer inspected via CCTV	7.3	7.1	4.7
Number of routine inspections of Significant Industrial Users	1	0	0
Number of illicit discharges inspected	18	35	24
Number of sewer overflow notifications	0	0	1
Number of sewer overflow notifications responded to in less than 25 minutes	0	0	1
Monthly average of flow treated at the Reclamation Plant (in million gallons per day (MGD))	8.28	8.08	8.15
Monthly average of recycled water delivered to BWP (in million gallons per day (MGD))	2.02	2.396	2.48
Monthly average of treated water discharged to the channel (in million gallons per day (MGD))	6.53	6	5.88
Amount of sludge sent to Los Angeles (in million gallons per day (MGD))	0.133	0.094	0.151

*2@\$500, 5@\$150

**5@\$150, 3@\$500

***1@\$75, 5@\$150, 2@\$500

Fleet & Building Maintenance

The Fleet and Building Maintenance Division maintains and repairs all City equipment and buildings with the exception of Fire equipment and BWP equipment/facilities. The Fleet Services section repairs a diverse range of conventional and alternate fueled vehicles and equipment, including the City's demonstration hydrogen fuel station. The Building Maintenance section consists of Facilities Maintenance and Custodial Services, handling the maintenance and repairs of all non-BWP City facilities. Facilities Maintenance includes construction, maintenance, carpentry, and painting of 775,000 sq. ft located within 80 buildings. Custodial Services cleans 532,000 sq. ft of occupied space in 28 buildings.

The table below summarizes some of the activities of the Fleet and Building Maintenance Division during the past three months.

	May	June	July
Fleet			
Total number of vehicles serviced	1458	1306	1261
Preventative maintenance inspections	180	161	142
General Repairs	1256	1127	1070
Road calls	10	14	37
Warranty/Recalls	12	4	12
Building Maintenance			
Number of work orders processed	260	282	285

Street & Sanitation

The Street and Sanitation Division includes the Road and Parkway Maintenance (including graffiti removal), Weed Abatement, Street Sweeping, Flood Control, Refuse Collection, Refuse Disposal, and Recycling sections.

The table below summarizes some of the activities of the Street and Sanitation Division during the past three months.

	May	June	July
Graffiti			
Number of incidents reported	309	312	178
Incidents removed in 1 day	247	301	177
Incidents removed in 2 days	42	11	0
Incidents removed in 3 days	13	0	0
Bulky Items			
Number of bulky item pickups	1383	1764	1641
Potholes			
Number of notifications received	24	28	39
Number repaired within 6 days of notification	23	27	39
Sidewalks			
Number of notifications received	12	6	12
Number repaired within 6 days of notification	11	6	12
Litter & Weed Abatement			
Number of litter or weed complaints	51	33	45
Number of complaints responded to within 3 days	51	33	45
Solid Waste/Recycling			
Number of service orders processed	1174	1072	1071
Number of service orders processed within 5 days	1171	1070	1069
Solid waste tonnage disposed of at Burbank Landfill	3026	2680	2818
Green waste tonnage diverted from Burbank Landfill	1843	1702	1688
Electronics collected (tons)	11	15	14
Used oil collected (gallons)	535	365	990
Oil drain pans distributed	3	12	14
Composters distributed	13	28	10
Recycling events conducted	4	3	8

All references to number of days are working days only.

Administration

The Administration Division provides administrative, financial, legislative, and employee relations support for the department.

The following table provides a summary of the call volume received by administrative staff in Public Works Field Services during the past three months.

	May	June	July
Bulky*	669	603	683
Sewer	104	78	78
Solid Waste	2019	1902	1957
Street	301	373	273
BWP	368	322	324
Home Rewards Rebate	40	57	41
Engineering	155	150	98
Traffic	146	227	225
Misc	1324	1285	1262
Total number of calls	5126	4997	4941

*Does not include calls to the Bulky Item Hotline.



Public Works Department Mission Statement

The Public Works Department plans, designs, builds, operates and maintains the City's public works systems in a financially and environmentally responsible manner, while responding to the community's changing needs.